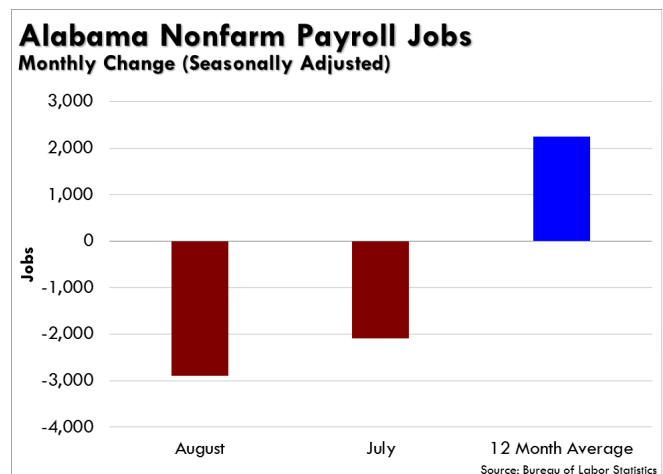
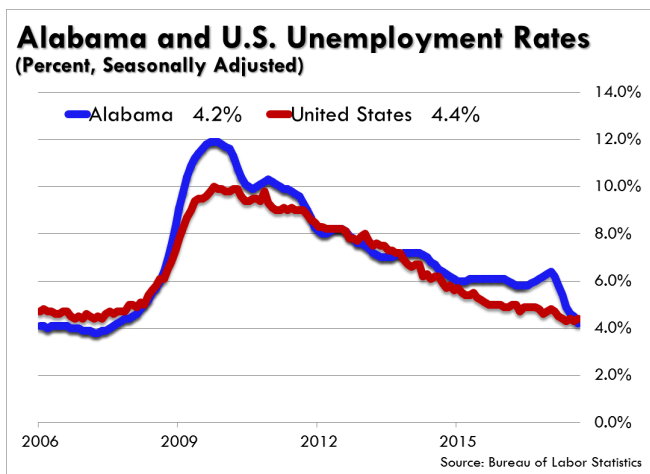


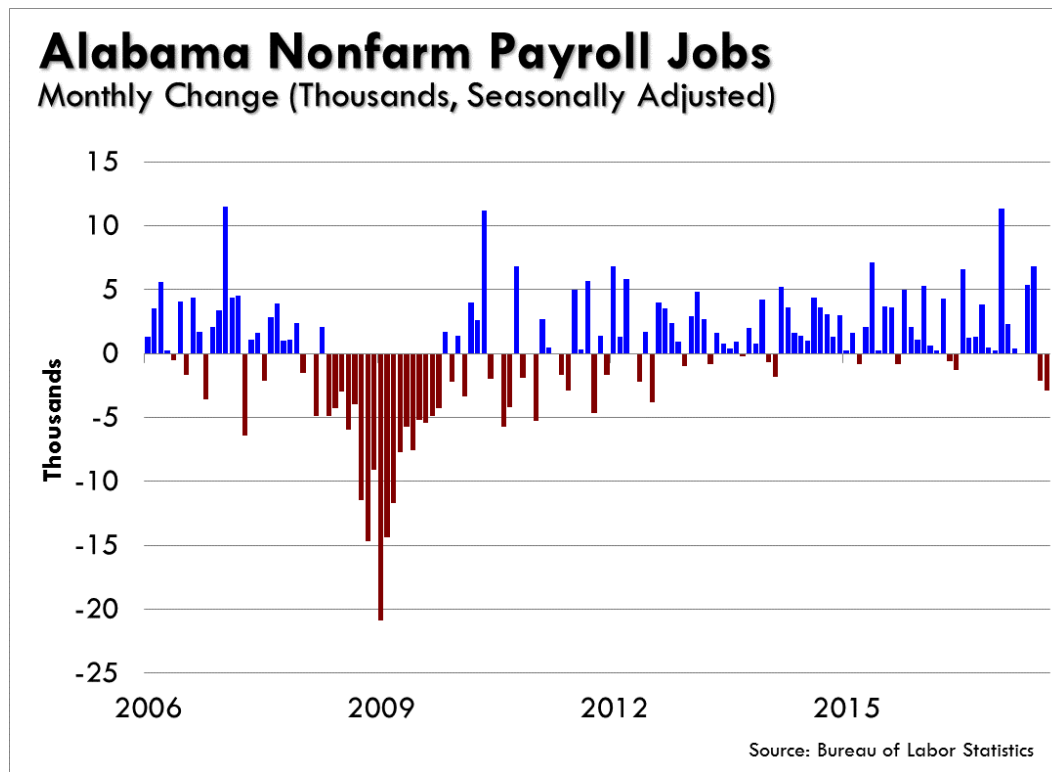


September 15, 2017

Summary

- **Alabama lost 2,900 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.3 percentage point to 4.2 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Alabama added 26,900 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 1.7 percentage points from 5.9 percent.
- **In August, Alabama's private sector lost 3,400 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 29,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Alabamans fell by 5,245 in August**, and over the past year 12,923 Alabamans found jobs.
- Alabama's **labor force participation rate decreased to 56 percent** from 56.3 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.9 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **rose by 0.1 percentage point to 4.4 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 20, 2017. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 6, 2017.





Alabama Payroll Employment

Alabama lost 2,900 jobs, or 0.14 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Alabama lost 2,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Alabama increased by 26,900, or 1.36 percent. Alabama nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

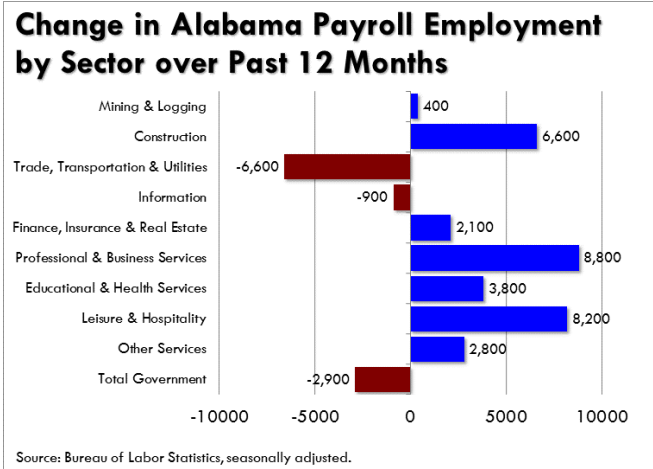
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 156,000 jobs in August, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,097,000 jobs, or 1.45 percent. Alabama ranks 35th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, Alabama's private-sector lost 3,400 jobs, or 0.21 percent. The private-sector in Alabama lost 2,000 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Alabama increased by 29,800, or 1.87 percent. Alabama private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 165,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,089,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.71 percent. Alabama ranks 36th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Construction (+1,500), Professional & Business Services (+500), and Total Government (+500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Other Services (-1,400) and Leisure & Hospitality (-1,300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+8,800) and Leisure & Hospitality (+8,200). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-6,600) and Total Government (-2,900).



Alabama Labor Force Statistics

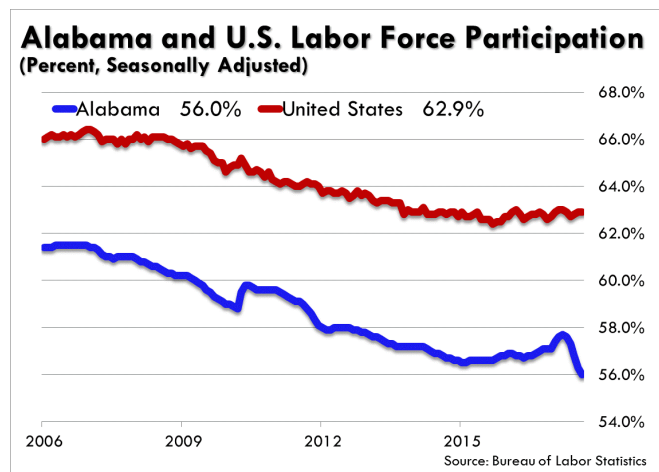
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Alabama declined to 56.0 percent in August from 56.3 percent the prior month. At 56.0 percent, Alabama has one of the five lowest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in Alabama is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Alabama was 61.0 percent in December 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Alabama occurred in September 1997 when the labor force participation rate hit 64.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 56.0 percent in August 2017. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Alabama. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Alabama civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 53.6 percent in August from 53.8 percent the prior month. At 53.6 percent, Alabama has one of the five lowest employment-to-population ratios



in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Alabama is 0.1 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alabama was 58.4 percent in November 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alabama occurred in April 1998 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 61.4 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 52.0 percent in December 2009. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 50.7 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in August. That rate was 0.4 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

